

# Off-Side Undo



A publication of

THE ENGLISH MOTORING CLUB

P. O. Box 5263  
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

May 1986

## NATCHEZ TOURIST TROPHY

No matter how short the trip, a drive in an older British sports car always has a certain element of adventure to it. It's not only the fun factor involved, but also that uneasy feeling that you may never actually get to where you're going. I suppose that all British car enthusiasts are gamblers at heart, and that may be one of the many unspoken attractions that these great little cars offer.

Where else but Natchez should a gambler go to enjoy this masochistic pleasure?

For this purpose, our hardy group of enthusiasts met in Jackson to prepare for the morning drive to Natchez on Saturday, April 26th. You could not ask for more perfect weather or a better group of folks with whom to enjoy it. Making up our caravan were the Anderson's (MGA), the Cappello's (TR-3B), Richard Hobbs and John Patterson (TR-6), the House's (AH 100), the Loftin's (AH 3000), the Peet's (Volvo - their 3000 was sick), the Simmers' (MGB-GT), the Speetjens' (AH 100 and Mercedes), and the Wade's



(TR-3). A surprise and welcome attendant was new member Bill Nunnery (a TR-6 owner), who drove over from Meridian with his family to see us off.

After waiting the mandatory "Peel Factor", we rounded everyone up for a drivers meeting. Our immediate problem was to find someone who knew the way to Natchez! (As the Natchez Trace ends about twenty miles north of town, we needed a little help - some rallyists!). Keith rose to the challenge and with a great grinding of starters, rapping of throttles, and gnashing of non-synchro gear teeth, we were off!

The trip down the Trace was most enjoyable. Not too hot, not too cool, a winding road and outstanding scenery. The stuff Road & Track writes about. The cars ran flawlessly (with the exception of the Speetjens' generator which hadn't run in weeks), and even the Peel's caught up with us at Rocky Springs in their TR-6. Our caravan completed, we continued our journey and arrived in Natchez in the middle of a March of Dimes Walk for Mankind.

Natchez is really a beautiful city, provided you overlook the ever-present Pizza Huts and Ecol stations (they grow like kudzu in this state). One of the first antebellum

homes you drive past is Dunleith, built in the 1850's, which is probably the most beautiful Greek Revival home in the South. Our Natchez brochure reminded us that, as the terminus of an ancient Indian trail from Nashville, this area saw people like Lafayette, Davy Crockett, Samuel Clemens, Aaron Burr and Andrew Jackson. Unfortunately, my mind was distracted by the ever-rising temperature needle as we pattered through the Walk for Mankind crowd.

With none of the promised help from the police, Jack Pool, David Peabody, and Dick and Luan Kingsafer had their hands full in securing our river front parking area in the park. Once parked, we were greeted by members of the British Sports Car Club of Memphis and the Austin Healey Club of Louisiana. Our Cajun cousins brought a fleet of Toyota's, a Volvo, and even a Ford Econoline (surely an English Ford Econoline), while the Memphis group came down in a Healey 3000, a TR-3A, a Jaguar XJ6, and a Maserati Quattroporte (Lamar McQuirter's "fishin' car" driven down from a fishing trip in Arkansas). Our Natchez friends were present with a 1970 Rover 3500 (for sale), a Healey 3000, a Toyota Landcruiser (our sweep vehicle), and a Hercules Royal Prince (an English bicycle). One late entrant was a Pontiac Fiero driven by two college students who just happened to be passing by. All non-British vehicles were issued Union Jack flags to fly or tape to their cars.

Registration ran smoothly, thanks to our Natchez friends, and Bridgett Pool even ran a free soft drink stand for us. Picnic lunches were de-booted from the cars and we had a pleasant meal overlooking the Mississippi from our bluff. Jennifer Ogden, our New York member, even dropped by for a short visit while in town visiting family. Due to family



commitments, she was unable to join either the rally or the party afterwards. Surely she would have won the distance award!

Rallymaster Jack Pool ran a smooth event, despite the fact that the city of Natchez decided to strip the asphalt off the streets just a few days before the rally! Our route directed us past many old buildings and homes and through the surrounding countryside. Our navigators were kept busy with both the instructions and in answering questions such as "What did Sidney Allard do before the war?" and questions concerning the historic locations we passed. As simple as the instructions were, my navigator (Alex, Jr.) and I got lost twice.

The event finished at the Eola Guest House, our headquarters for the weekend. The Eola reserved a nineteen room antebellum house for our use which had been completely renovated and furnished with period antiques. Some of the beds were so high that stepped footstools were provided. The hotel also opened up a fully-stocked bar for us - all for \$50 a night! Our cars were parked next door in the Deposit Guaranty Bank's parking lot where Jack had employed a policeman to watch over our cars that night.

Winners were announced during the hospitality period. A tie for first place developed (discovered after the event) so that duplicate trophies were awarded to Keith and Pat Anderson (of Brandon) and to Thom and Janis Anderson (of Memphis). Third place was awarded to Charles and Carmen Clark of Westwego, Louisiana. A few "fun" awards were given out and everyone was given a dash plaque. Event sponsors (Dossett Auto World, Import Auto Parts of Vicksburg, Mead Buick-Pontiac-Mazda, Deposit Guaranty National Bank, and Southland Honda) were also



understand that everyone made it home ok (with the exception of the Houses who experienced a minor carburetor problem).

It looks like these Mississippi gamblers came up aces!

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### THIRD ANNUAL RIDE TO THE RIVER

Be sure and join us for our annual Vicksburg trip, to be held on June 14th. Jackson residents who are interested in caravanning over may elect to meet in the Sears parking lot at Metrocenter at 11 am. We plan to arrive at Import Auto Parts, Ltd., at noon to meet our host and event sponsor, Jim Karel.

Just as last year, there will be no need to pack a lunch or drinks. All food and beverages will be provided by Import Auto Parts when we arrive at the picnic location on the banks of Eagle Lake. Please RSVP with the attached form to Jim so that he can plan ahead.

See you on the 14th!

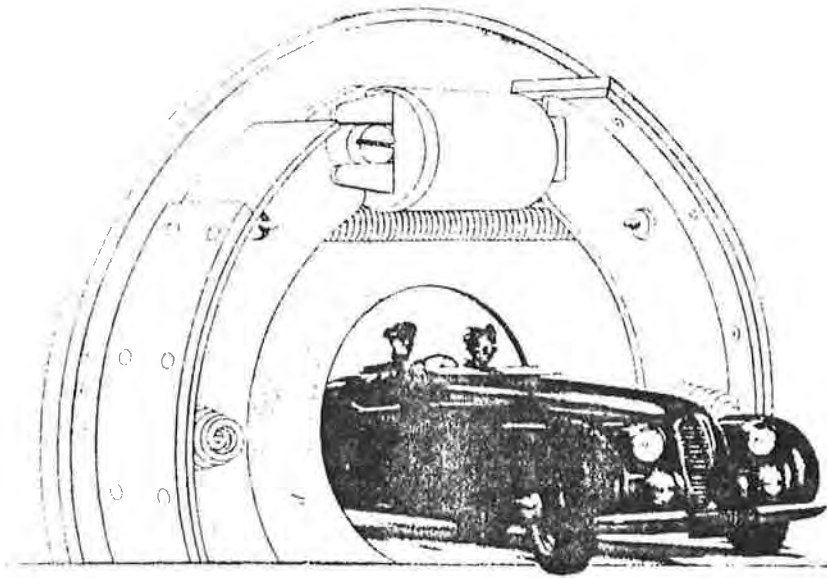
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### BRITLETS

PERMAPLUG - a wrung-off disc brake bleed valve.

CARPETANTS - all the little pens, green coins, gum wrappers and tiny screws that are found after the carpet has been removed from your car.

CARPETOIDS - all the strange growths found in your carpet spawned by a leaky convertible top.



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## We made speed SAFER!

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People tour to-day at averages faster than those of some of the early road races—made possible only by vastly improved braking. It was Lockheed that began the intensive specialisation on fine braking, thereby setting a standard which has established  
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acknowledged and thanked for their support without which the event could not have been held. Special thanks went to Jack Pool, Dick Kingsafer, and David Peabody who put the event together.

Most folks went to Scrooge's for supper and a few of us went out afterwards to sample some of the night life to be had in the area. Jack took us to a remote

lounge located high on a river bluff which was really relaxing - you could even feed raccoons from the patio deck while watching the river traffic.

The hotel greeted us with a continental breakfast the next morning. We said our farewells, with some folks staying a bit longer in Natchez to see some more of the area. I



## BRITISH SPORTS CAR CLUB, LTD.

317 MADISON AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103

April 21, 1986

ALEX, TERRY & JACKSON FRIENDS,  
Dear Editor,

Please include in your "Shows/Events" calendar or section of your publication the following information promoting our "3rd Annual British Car Fest". We would appreciate this being included as soon as possible and reprinted as often as space permits through the month of October. By all standards this has quickly become the best "little car" show in the MidSouth.

### Event Details:

- 3rd Annual British Car Fest
- October 17-18, 1986
- Memphis, Tennessee
- Open to all British-built cars regardless of condition and marque.
- Car show site is "Mud Island" in the middle of the Mississippi River. (Rain site is the covered parking garage of the Sheraton Memphis Hotel.)
- Special lodging rates are available at the Sheraton Memphis Hotel, show headquarters. Phone: (901) 525-2511
- For show registration materials and more details write: "British Car Fest", 317 Madison Avenue, Memphis, Tn. 38103

### Background Info:

In our first year we had an attendance of 94 British cars from 8 different states. Trophies were awarded for the first three places in 13 different categories. Proceeds after expenses were donated to the local Variety Club Children Services which support an artificial Limb Bank and a Center for Battered and Abused Children.

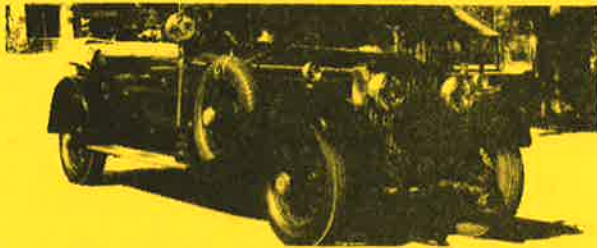
In 1985 despite inclement weather over 140 cars were registered from 11 states. The efforts of the show were expanded to include the raffling of a 1970 MGB, completely rebuilt by the club. Our combined efforts resulted in a \$10,000 contribution to the Variety Club Children Services.

Thank you for your assistance in promoting our show. We appreciate your support and so will your readers that attend this First Class event!

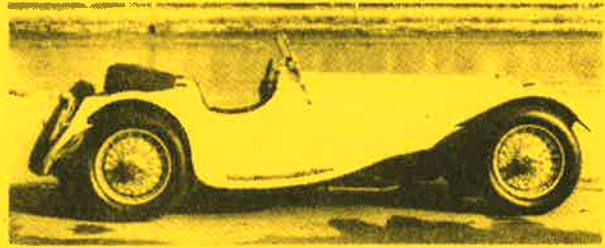
Sincerely,

Randy C. Balogh, President and Car Fest Chairman

P.S. WE NOW HAVE A VERY NICE  
'75 MGB, RED W/ WIRE WHEELS TO  
RAFFLE. STILL ONLY \$1.00/CHANCE!  
HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU IN OCTOBER IF NOT  
SOONER.



1926 ROLLS ROYCE PHANTOM ONE OPEN TOURER  
BY WINDOVER



1938 JAGUAR SS100 2 1/2 LITRE

# Third Annual Ride To The River

**Welcome All British Car Owners**

**Register for Prizes**

**Free Food & Drinks**

**Furnished by Import Auto Parts, Ltd.**

**Meet at Import Auto Parts, Ltd.**

**1326 Clay Street**

**12:00 noon Saturday, June 14, 1986**

**Continue drive to Eagle Lake for Comradere**

**and Social Interaction among British Car Owners**

**Send: RSVP To Jim Karel C/O Import Auto Parts, Ltd.**

**1326 Clay Street**

**Vicksburg, MS 39180**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People in Party \_\_\_\_\_